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# Concern

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## Cover Photo

Dr. Nels F. S. Ferre, professor of philosophical theology at Vanderbilt University, is one of the many Christian leaders who are participating in vocational conferences for Methodist youth. Last year The Methodist Church had 69 vocational conferences around the country for teen-agers seeking information and guidance for use of their lives.

**Photo by Radio and Film Commission, The Methodist Church**

## *In this issue:*


**H. S. work camp**
**UMT! still hot**
**Manila report**
**Sports specials**
**Comic books**



# Concern

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## *Office-type talk*

Naturally the office of the National Conference of Methodist Youth is going strong on arrangements for the 1955 National Convention of Methodist Youth and Students, to be Aug 22-26 at Purdue University, Lafayette Ind. About 4,000 young people and nearly 1,000 adults will be there for five days of challenge on the subject "Our Christian Witness in the World of Struggle." (All kinds of detailed info available on request.)

What has the office staff laughing is the mistaken terminology being used by some of the persons helping prepare the material. One keeps telling us about **"conversation** blanks." Another one asked us in all seriousness about the "Convocation **restoration."**

So now it seems we're in the "conversation restoration" business. We do hope you'll talk about Convo to your friends, and we do hope you're already in good condition to get your registration in to your conference director of youth work (or executive secretary or state student director—they have the quotas, the information, the blanks and the full authority to sign you up. All registrations must be made through them.

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The fall issue of POWER, devotional booklet for young people, will have an international theme, and Editor LeRoy King hopes to have material written by contributors from many different countries. If you live in another country or are a student from another country or have a friend outside the United States who could write a page or two of POWER material, please let us hear from you. Simple instruction sheets are available—the copy is due to us by May 1. We depend on young people for much of POWER's content.

Incidentally, if you are not acquainted with POWER, let us know that, too. We'll be glad to send you a sample copy. Both POWER and CONCERN are projects of the National Conference of Methodist Youth, Box 871, Nashville 2, Tenn.

# High school work camp planned

## Four-week project at Navajo school

Senior high youth will have their first work camp this coming summer. It will be a volunteer Christian service project at the Navajo Methodist Mission School in Farmington, N. M.

The Youth Department of the General Board of Education and the Woman's Division of Christian Service of the Board of Missions will sponsor the camp, to be from June 28 to July 26.

In the last few years there has been an increasing interest in and demand for volunteer service projects for high school youth. Next summer's camp was requested by the National Methodist Youth Fellowship Commission in its meeting last August.

Ten high school boys and girls from all parts of the United States will be accepted for the work camp. They must be at last 16 years of age and have completed at least the sophomore year in high school. Pupils who will be graduated this year are eligible.

All applicants will be screened carefully as to character, personality, health, interest and ability. It is expected that the group will include several Navajo youth.

Projects for the work camp will include work on the farm and in the garden, canning vegetables and fruits, and repair and maintenance work at the school at Farmington and possibly at Bisti, the outpost school on the reservation.

Other features will include educational and sightseeing trips, such as the tribal headquarters and the cliff dwellings, visits with town folks including the MYF, worship, discussions and recreation.

Camp directors will be the Rev. and Mrs. Joe Bell of Nashville, Tenn. He is a member of the youth department staff. Members of the Farmington school staff will supervise the work projects and assist in dormitory counseling.

Work campers will live in the school dormitories and eat in the school dining room. Each camper will be responsible for his own transportation to and from the camp, and will pay an activities fee of $25 to cover insurance, educational and sight-seeing trips, literature, etc.

*Work Camp—for you and them*

Interested MYF'ers should write to Mr. Bell at the Youth Department, Box 871, Nashville 2, for further information and an application blank. All applications must be sent in by May 1.

## National rural CWM to be in Virginia

"God needs **you** this summer"—that's the beginning of the story directed to college students regarding the National Rural Christian Witness Mission for July 10 to Aug. 8.

The service project, sponsored by the National Conference of Methodist Youth and other agencies of the church, will be conducted in the Blue Ridge Mountain section of Virginia.

Students will aid in surveying new communities, helping to start new churches, training leaders in evangelism, leading in youth CWM's, and helping in other types of evangelism work.

Ten students will be chosen from Virginia and ten from outside the state. They will provide their own transportation to Ferrum, Va., for a week of training at Ferrum Junior College, followed by work and witness in three districts.

Further information and application blanks are available from the Rev.

Howard Ellis, 1908 Grand Ave., Nashville 5, or Mr. Gerald C. Speidel, 2666 Jefferson Park Circle, Charlottesville, Va.

## San Antonio camp set for second year

The second interracial work camp in San Antonio, Texas, will be conducted June 11 to Aug. 6, it has been announced. It will be sponsored by the National Conference of Methodist Youth and the General Board of Social and Economic Relations of The Methodist Church.

Described as "a pioneering effort in human relations at the cultural crossroads of the Southwest," the work camp will offer rich experience to 20 young people, either college students or older youth, from across the United States.

Last year's San Antonio work campers served in 29 MYF's in the city, among Negro, Latin and Anglo youth. This year's program will aid local groups in training youth leadership, directing recreation workshops, preparing for the district Christian Witness Mission, and strengthening youth programs.

There also will be worship and study, and a brief trip to northern Mexico. Work assignments will be made in cooperation with the Volunteer Service Bureau of San Antonio, and work will be done in existing social and welfare agencies.

Complete information and application blanks are available from the National Conference of Methodist Youth, Box 871, Nashville 2.

## Students disagree with bishops

Representatives of the Methodi Student Movement, attending t Christian Citizenship Seminar in Was ington the first week in February, di fered in their views of the church jurisdictional system and its relatio ship to segregation as expressed b the College of Bishops of the Sout eastern Jurisdiction.

Fifteen Southern students were i cluded in the 43 student leaders wh adopted a resolution of "dissappoin ment" in the bishops' statement issue during the jurisdiction's quadrenni convocation.

Six other students from the Sou adopted a resolution calling the bisho statement "fair and accurate."

The bishops had defended the segr gated jurisdictional system of TI Methodist Church and said that "t abolition of the Central Jurisdictio (all Negro) would reduce our Neg membership to a small minority sca tered over five jurisdictions, with le participation in the church's life a program."

They added: "We know of no co certed action looking toward the abo tion of the jurisdiction or any one them." The majority student resol tion read:

"We, the undersigned members the Student Citizenship Seminar spo sored by the Methodist Student Mov ment, wish to express our disappoin ment over the recent statement issue by the College of Bishops of the Sout

**Your Jan. 21 issue of CONERN carried information about ecumenical work camps, two 1954 scenes from which are shown below. On the left, World Council of Churches work campers are at work on a church in Hallstahammar, Sweden. The workers at the right a "moving it" for a community and ref gee center at Ludwigfburg in the We Zone, Germany. Detailed informati is available from Ecumenical Wo Camps, 110 East 29th St., New York 1**

eastern Jurisdiction of The Methodist Church Feb. 2.

"We recognize the complexity of the changing social structure of the South, yet we fear that patience may lapse into passivity. We feel that the Bishops neglected to urge serious considerationof a revision of the present jurisdiction system. We further feel that the statement offered no positive alternatives for implementing the teachings of Christ.

"We detect a note of paternalism in the assertion that the Central Jurisdiction makes 'possible more effective work and closer fellowship within the respective jurisdictions.'

"Were the Church merely the reflection of culture in which it exists, it would speak not for God, but for man. We believe that the Church is the Body of Christ—and must, of necessity, transform culture.

"As Methodists from campuses throughout the nation, we therefore express our hope that efforts will be consistently made to unite all Methodists in a church body structured so that there are no artificial barriers in organization, based on racial differences, that deny the essential unity of the Church itself."

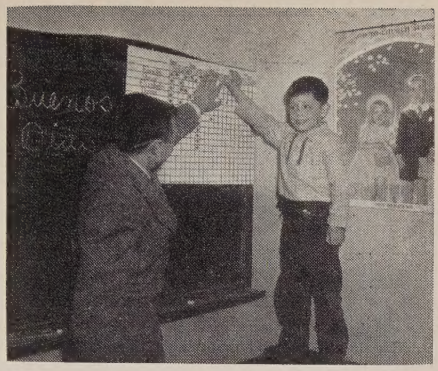
The minority group adopted the following resolution:

"We, the undersigned members of the Methodist Student Citizenship Seminar (1955), having heard the full statement of the College of Bishops, Southeastern Jurisdiction of The Methodist Church, wish to express ourselves in this wise:

"(1) We feel that the assembled bishops have presented a fair and accurate description of the nature of the problems of the abolishment of the present jurisdictional system in their area.

"(2) We further feel that, with regard to the broader field of racial relations, they have made an equitable and valid appraisal of both the theoretical and practical aspects of the problem.

"(3) We express our confidence in the bishops to fully take account of these two problems, and to work for their eventual solution with unceasing efforts; using the approaches and methods which in their judgments seem best, as they have done in the statement.



## West Coast MYF teaches class

Ventura (Calif.) MYF'ers have their own home mission project, teaching a Sunday school class in the tiny Mexican Methodist church in their town.

Last October the group agreed to provide leadership for a class of kindergarten-age children in the Mexican church for a year. Two members of the MYF teach each Sunday for a month.

Douglas Fowler, Christian Fellowship chairman in the Ventura MYF and Long Beach district MYF vice president, was one of the teachers in January. He is shown in the pictures on this page with members of the class (and one child's mother).

Another missionary project of the Ventura MYF is sponsorship of a Korean orphan through the Christian Children's Fund. Each MYF member contributes a cent a meal each week toward the boy's support ($10 monthly).

"(4) We feel that, in doing this, they have fully discharged their duties as individuals, as Christians, and as leaders of and spokesmen for the Methodist people in their jurisdiction."

# Report from Manila

**Methodist Social Center**—Things are going here about as usual with the morning and afternoon kindergarten having about 35 students each and being helped by Harris Memorial practice teachers at present. About 100 children drink milk each day, and about that number of youngsters play on the playground with clubs going about as usual.

Something new has been added, however, and is a real improvement. We have a Stateside-trained psychiatric social worker on our staff now and because she can speak Tagalog and they can't fool her (because they think she doesn't understand their way of living) she is making a fine contribution. We are hoping that eventually all the social work problems can be channeled to her and some assistants and we will not be the innocent victims of professional beggars.

Scraps of material of any kind from cloth to plastic or oil cloth would be helpful for young people to send.

(Editor's Note: If your MYF is interested, see the revised issue of Supply List (2278-B) free from Youth Department, Box 871, Nashville 2.)

We have been trying to do some case work before but language has been a barrier because the Filipino worker we hired on a part time basis while she was in school could not speak Tagalog as it is different from her own dialect. Now we have two Methodist girls who have had some training here in the Philippines assisting Norma Alampay without pay for the experience which in turn may help them to get a paying job.

We have a painting class now with a one-armed painter as teacher. He does very good work and has been begging on the street to feed his family. This way he is earning a little and keeping his self-respect.

Our Girl Scouts have finished making their uniforms and are working on second class and bookbinding. We are going to finish bookbinding at the Bible Society. Norma, our Social Worker, is meeting with the older boys and they are going to have a session on etiquette. So the year is starting off on the right foot.

—By Ruth Ward, Missionary

A cup of milk for Ruby Montevengi

(Left) Older children and their "little ones" line up for UNICEF milk at 4:00 daily . . . Above, a widow who washes clothes to support her five children receives a welcome package.

# UMT!

For the moment, the principal action in the National Conference of Methodist Youth opposition to congressional proposals for universal military training is letter-writing.

We also are mailing out any requested number of UMT! reprints—material from past issues of CONCERN has been edited and reproduced, and is being sent out without charge. (See notice below.)

As this is written, it is of vital importance that every person concerned about Christian beliefs in action should write to as many congressmen and senators as possible on the subject of universal military training.

Write to your own senator and representative. Write to members of congressional committees conducting hearings, and to church leaders, and to friends — write and tell them how you feel, what you believe, what you hope they will do on the issue of UMT!

*this is still hot*

**We cannot urge this too strongly, for only as concerned Christians pay attention and take action will our lawmakers and government leaders be encouraged to follow Christian principles.**

**UMT! Reprints**

**FREE**

**from**

**CONCERN**

**Box 871**

**Nashville 2, Tenn.**

## New cues

Here are more materials you will find profitable in a discussion of universal military training and of current legislative proposals:

Washington Newsletter No. 137, Special Anti-Conscription Supplement —Friends Committee on National Legislation, 104 C Street, N. E., Washington 2, D. C.

From the same source—"The Facts About the Pentagon's Conscription Plans." 25¢ copy. This is especially good.

Conscription Factfolder 1, "Why the Draft Act Should Not Be Renewed," 5¢ each. Sounds out-of-date by now, but the reasons are important now and in the future. Order from National Council Against Conscription, 104 C Street, N. E. Washington 2, D. C.

## More views

The *Christian Century* for Feb. 23 has this to say:

"The 1955 version of UMT would be more undemocratic than any of its rejected predecessors . . . The UMT boys would be a favored group with only six months to serve, and that in the United States . . . The difference in combat readiness (between UMT boys and active service men) would be so great that the UMT boys could be sure that if a national emergency arose and the ready reserve were called to active service, the service-veterans would be sent to the battlelines long before the UMT-ers."

## What somebody's doing:

In MYF mailings in the California-Nevada conference, question-and-suggestion sheets are included on the subject of UMT. They show a dreamy-eyed couple sitting on an H-bomb, and list ideas galore for your consideration after you're sufficiently startled.

# REAL GOOD SPORTS

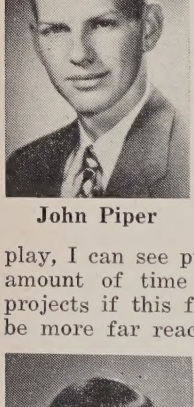
CONCERN's sports writer, Barbara Eskew, asked five CONCERN readers:

**"Do you think organized church leagues are making a real contribution to the church?**

Here are their answers.

Judy Harper

**Judy Harper,** Iowa-Des Moines Conference President: "I hail from a big city where we have an active church sports league. An active league can fulfill an interesting and worthwhile role in the life of an MYF, provided it remains a means of fellowship and not an end in itself. Importing players for a season may make for a winning team, but it defeats its purpose."



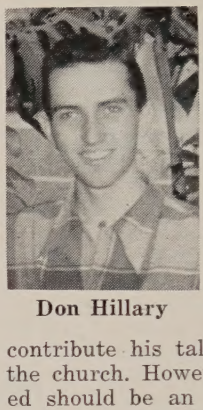
John Piper

**John Piper,** Central Penn. Conference President: "If the team exists merely to win and prove its superiority, or is just another way to lure members to the church, then I am against it. However, if as an outgrowth of their desire for real Christian fellowship they wish to play, I can see purpose. Yet, an equal amount of time should be given to projects if this fellowship is going to be more far reaching."

June Kirkhuff

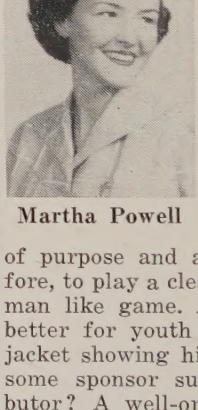
**June Kirkhuff,** Oklahoma MSM President: "In some communities the competitive aspect of the sports has developed into a not-so-friendly rivalry between churches. If the sports program out-weighs any other area of Christian growth in the church, it should be examined carefully to see what its purpose actually has become.

"There are countless areas in which churches can contribute to the needs of the individual. Each church must decide. If the league keeps its aims, standards, and purposes Christ-centered, then I think my answer would be a qualified yes!"



Don Hillary

**Don Hillary,** So. California Conference President: "I think sports leagues have a definite place in the life of the church. Just as there are many other secular activities in the interest of the fellowship, so there should be an opportunity for the athletically-inclined to contribute his talents in the name of the church. However, the teams formed should be an integral part of the Christian education program, with an attempt to relate the activity to the wholeness of the Christian life."



Martha Powell

**Martha Powell,** Indiana MSM President: "By becoming a part of any aspect of a program of any group or institution, participants usually acquire some of the general characteristics of that group. Youth who play on church - sponsored teams usually realize the importance of purpose and aim. They try, therefore, to play a cleaner and more sportsman like game. And might it not be better for youth to wear proudly his jacket showing his church league than some sponsor such as a beer distributor? A well-organized church-sponsored league would be a definite instrument for the building of Christian character."

How are the church sports leagues in your community? Are they making a real contribution? We would like to hear your views on this point. Send your opinions on Christian witness in the field of sports and recreation to CONCERN, Box 871, Nashville 2.

**This seal of approval will appear on all comics magazines conforming to the Code of Ethics established by the recently-formed Comics Magazine Association of America. More than 400 comic books now being published are to bear this seal—watch for it.**

RNS Photo

# Educating for delinquency

*'Tis education forms the common mind,*
*Just as the twig is bent the tree's inclined.*

—Pope

Early last summer a strange new surge of juvenile crime began in New York City when two teen-agers attacked and kicked to death a middle-aged man as, humming to himself, he walked homeward one evening. Their savage onslaught seemed purposeless. Later a lone fisherman was murdered by two hoodlums who broke his neck and threw his body into the ocean.

In August four Brooklyn teen-agers were arrested who subsequently confessed to a series of crimes including murder, torture by burning limbs soaked in gasoline, whipping, kicking, and gouging. New York juveniles baffled city leaders by their pointless crimes and fearless attacks and beating of the policemen who tried to end their brutalities.

Dr. Fredric Wertham, in *"Seduction of the Innocent,"* very vividly points out that one of the major causes of delinquency is crime comics. A **billion** times a year an American youth sits down to pore over a comic book!

Crime comics, which according to Dr. Wertham make up the vast majority of all comics, have as their formula: crime, torture, and rape. These "funny books" undermine the virtues of truth, honesty, courage, love, etc., which man has venerated since the dawn of conscience.

The scenes of canibalism, adultery, torture, suicide, murder, and defiance of law which fill comics are virtually the only reading matter in one-third of America's homes.

Anything which occupies a child's mind three or four hours a day, as comics do, cannot be dismissed as having no influence on him.

Here's a typical comic story entitled, "I Killed Mary." Bobby meets Mary and walks homeward with her. They stop in a barn on the way because of rain. Mary is shown reclining on the hay. Bobby makes advances at her, but she laughs and calls him "sissy." He then seizes an ax, and is shown hacking her to death. There is a close-up of the girl's undraped legs as she lies murdered. Later Bobby is seen hanging from the rafters of the barn, a suicide victim. How's this for a modern bedtime story for children?

Stories like this are directly and indirectly responsible for thousands of juvenile crimes. The desire of children to imitate what they see has led to the duplication of hundreds of comic-book crimes in actual life.

Here's the case of four boys, 14 to 16 years of age, who enacted a comic-book classic:

"They beat the 68-year-old proprietor

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**Finley Eversole is a senior in pre-ministerial study at Birmingham-Southern College and is Christian Outreach chairman for the North Alabama Conference MYF.**

of a little candy store with a hammer and while he was lying on the floor one of the 14-year-olds drove a knife into his head with such force that the hilt was snapped off."

The printing of such brutalities as the above is usually taboo with adults, yet it is placed in the hands of children before they learn to read.

In an effort to win back public confidence, the Comics Magazine Association of America announced a comic-book Code of Ethics early in November and named Charles F. Murphy to serve as censor.

However, until the results of this self-censorship by the Comic Industries show up on every corner newsstand, parents, teachers, ministers, and society must continue to fight for respectable literature for their children.

—By Finley Eversole

## "Class of 1955" seeks 50 members

For three years of service overseas, 50 young persons are now being recruited as the "Fellowship of Christian Service, Class of 1955," by the Board of Missions.

These young men and women should be unmarried, between 21 and 28 years of age, should have completed college work, and should be church members, although not necessarily Methodists.

Interested young persons ready to take six weeks of training this summer and to go to other countries next fall should communicate with Dr. M. O. Williams (men) or Miss J. Marguerite Twinem (women) at 150 Fifth Avenue, New York 11.

Asia, Africa and South America are the areas in which these special missionaries will serve for three years.

The types of skills required are teaching, the ministry, medicine, nursing, religious education, secretarial knowledge, agriculture and social work.

Opportunities include organ teaching in Brazil, three laboratory technicians in Africa and Pakistan, two business assistants in Korea and the Congo, a dietitian in Korea, and an auto mechanic and an operator of audio-visual equipment in Brazil.

**BY HAROLD EWING**

## Good reading: "I Belong"

A major phase of the Youth Emphasis is to seek to deepen faith of the young people of the Methodist Youth Fellowship,

As an important means of achieving this a special reading book is prepared each Lenten season for the personal reading of the million and a half young people in The Methodist Church.

This year the material has to do with the area of faith in the church. Young people who attended the National Conference of Methodist Youth at Naperville, Ill., last August, chose *"I Belong to the Christian Church,"* as the book title, since shortened to *I Belong (to the Church)*.

Dr. Hoover Rupert, for five years national director of youth work for The Methodist Church, is the author of this stimulating and thought-provoking book. Writing out of a background as one of the most popular speakers to youth and pastors' gatherings in the church, he speaks the language of youth and makes clear the involved and dramatic history of the Christian Church.

Dr. Rupert describes in colorful language the relation of Jesus to the early church, the work of the apostles, the founding of the Church, the early history of the growing Christian movement and the Protestant reformation. He gives an appreciation of the heritage of The Methodist Church and explains the basic beliefs it holds. He does not confine the book to a statement of history or a description of beliefs, but moves on to explain its structure and give dramatic illustrations of the church at work in the modern world.

Chapter titles from *I Belong* give an outline of the book: Purpose, Beginnings, Definitions, Growing Pains, Reformation, Methodism, Worship, Education, MYF, Witness, Action, Outreach, Fellowship, Opportunity, Obligation.

In 1940 Dr. Rupert was appointed

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**Harold Ewing is director of the youth department of the Board of Education of The Methodist Church.**

pastor of First Methodist Church in Jackson, Mich., where he has served with distinction. Contributing to many magazines and books, he also has established himself as a poet. Several of his poems are used in *I Belong*.

Dr. Hoover and his wife, Hazel, who are known to thousands of youth and adult workers with youth across the church, are raising their own "MYF"—they have two daughters, Susan, 8, and Elizabeth Anne, 4.

*I Belong* will be used by many young people for their own personal enrichment, reading it morning or evening, or sandwiching it into their study hours during the day. Some families may wish to read it in connection with the family devotions and then discuss it. Some churches plan to send copies to all their members in military service and to students in college. Sermons will be preached on chapters from *I Belong*, or it will be used in mid-week services.

*I Belong* was not developed to take the place of the study and discussion materials for the senior and older youth MYF, either Sunday morning or Sunday evening. A unit of study for seniors in the Sunday school on "the Church Through the Centuries" will begin in February, while the Sunday evening topic for seniors and older youth for March is on the same theme, "I Belong."

Older youth will give their attention during Sunday school sessions to the theme, "Free Men in a Free Church." The parallel project for intermediates is carried in the story paper *Twelve/Fifteen* in a series of articles on "You and the Church."

## New MYF Testament announced by MPH

A new binding on a new version of an old "best seller," with a special addition, is being offered to MYF members by the Methodist Publishing House.

The Revised Standard Version of the New Testament is available in a blue binding bearing the MYF emblem in gold.

Also included in the Testament is a special four-page section with the MYF covenant, emblem, meaning, membership pledge, motto, presentation page, and a statement, "MYF and the Church", by Harold Ewing, director of the youth department of the Board of Education.

The pocket-sized volume is $2.25 a copy, with a special price of $2 for ten or more.

# CUES

## Leaflets emphasize social issues

Hot off the press are two leaflets containing statements adopted recently by the Board of Social and Economic Relations of The Methodist Church.

They are "A Message on Race Relationships" and "A Message on Civil Liberties and Internal Security." Both were adopted at the January meeting of church boards and agencies in Cincinnati, and both offer clearly-stated principles of belief on the subjects.

Order a free copy of each from the Board of Social and Economic Relations, 740 Rush St., Chicago 11.

## Congressional list now available

The 1955 edition of "Register Christian Opinion!" is now available. It contains a complete list of all senators and representatives by states and districts, all standing committees in Congress, and information on addressing correspondence to government officials.

The pamphlet is published by the Board of World Peace, 740 Rush St., Chicago 11. A single copy is 10¢—12 for 50¢—100 for $3.50.

## Editorials sought on campus drinking

"Is there a college drinking problem?"

Your answer to that, in editorial form, may be worth $250.

The Intercollegiate Association for Study of the Alcohol Problem has announced the Roberts Award of 1955 for short editorials to be written by college students. Contest deadline is May 1.

Write to the association at 12 No. Third St., Room 522, Columbus 15, Ohio, for details.

SPECIAL TO CONCERN

## Young minister wrestles and wins

In addition to wrestling with church problems, the Devil, and schoolwork, the Rev. Ray Carlson of Jefferson, Pa., wrestles with the Waynesburg (Pa.) College team against such teams as Ohio State University—and wins.

Ray, now a senior at Waynesburg College, has won all but one match as a member of the Yellow Jacket's wrestling squad, which is undefeated this season.

The 24-year-old wrestler pastors Jefferson Methodist Church and plans to enter Westminster (Md.) Seminary upon graduation from Waynesburg. He has served the Jefferson church as student pastor since 1951.

Known as the "Wrasslin' Reverend" by students and members of his church, Ray began wrestling while a sophomore at the Dubois (Pa) high school.

After Waynesburg downed Ohio State Jan. 15, Coach Casey Fredericks of the Buckeye institution made the following comment on Ray Carlson:

"That preacher they have is good. He's one of the best I've seen in college ranks in recent years."

Coach Fredericks went on to predict that Waynesburg could defeat Purdue's Boilermakers in their Feb. 2 meeting, which it did.

While he doesn't make a show of it, Ray Carlson prays before each match.

"I started praying before each meet in my freshman year," Ray explains, "and the boys wouldn't hear of my stopping now."

The "Wrasslin' Reverend" has never been a member of a losing squad.

—By Darrell Shamblin

## Friends of CONCERN

(Five or more new subscriptions)

| | |
|---|---|
| Hettie Sue Brooks, Arkansas | 14 |
| Diane Dennis, Oregon | 6 |
| Jim Snell, Michigan | 36 |
| Miriam Douglass, Maine | 6 |
| Sally Allshouse, Pennsylvania | 5 |
| Mrs. Kermit Koester, Nebraska | 14 |
| Marshall Hampton, Texas | 7 |
| Laurence Garrett, Illinois | 5 |
| Bill Serex, Louisiana | 12 |

## Students to confer on civil liberties

An all-state Student Civil Liberties Conference is being called for students on California campuses, Apr. 22 in Los Angeles.

A temporary steering committee, including students from several schools and campus organizations, had a special pre-conference planning session at which it was emphasized that the conference is not to present any organization's ideology, nor to be sponsored by any one group, but to focus attention of students on the problem of attacks on student civil liberties, and to achieve student unity for action.

The first meeting of the temporary committee was early in December, its members having been spurred to action by the assertion of university administration control of the UCLA campus newspaper. Martin McReynolds, former editor of *The Daily Bruin*, the UCLA paper, has been temporary chairman, assisted by members of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, American Civil Liberties Union, Student Civil Liberties Union, and Y.M.C.A. Student church and political groups and newspaper staffs also are being invited to participate.

Regarding student civil liberties, one of the members of the committee said:

"For most of us it is not a question of whether or not there is a problem. The question that we must raise is: how do we effectually deal with this problem and be consistent with the ideals we hold? If we honestly face up to this question, and are able to come near a tentative answer, we will have a significant contribution to make in helping other students and young people gain a more accurate picture of civil liberties.

"Civil liberties in our day are intricately related to political events and armament races. Abrogations of human rights are justified, for the most part, in the name of military necessity."

The endorsement of ministers, business and civic leaders, labor leaders and faculty members is being sought for the conference, in addition to student leadership.

## Texas students selling toeholds

For several years the MSM at Texas Christian University and its director, the Rev. C. J. Roberts, have been working toward the purchase of a student center. Many churches, pastors and laymen have been equally interested.

Early in January a great part of the dream was realized when the organization took a 90-day option on the former home of T.C.U.'s athletic director, Dutch Meyer. Cooperation on the project came by "leaps and bounds" from students, a newly organized board of directors, and women's groups in interested churches.

A unique way of promoting the purchase of the house was devised by Van Rathgeber, an MSM member. He drew up a plan of the entire area and marked it off in square inches. Each square inch, representing a square foot, is sold for $10, and a deed for the property is given the purchaser, representing a "Toehold in TCU."

Since opening its new student center, the MSM has had visits from several distinguished guests, including Bishop Gerald Kennedy who was the Oreon E. Scott lecturer for T.C.U.'s 1955 Minister's Week. He bought a "toehold" (see picture below).

The new center is a seven-room red brick house with a general assembly room, reading room and a hobby-crafts room already designated.

The MSM is planning a two-week summer work session for nearby members and summer school students, to rejuvenate the house.

**MSM in action**

## Student seminar "great experience"

Seventy students from 54 colleges attended the Christian Citizenship Seminar sponsored by the Methodist Student Movement at the United Nations and in Washington, D. C., Feb. 6-12.

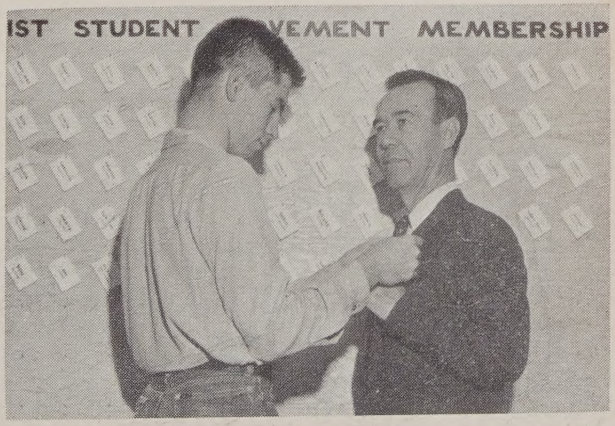
Michael Pool of Southern Methodist University said of the seminar: "I am still under the influence of the truly great experience the seminar was to me and to all of us. It was so tremendous in scope I know it will be a long while before I am fully aware of its complete impact. I am ready to begin some definite action toward an awakening of the Christian conscience which is now much more vitally clear in its importance to me."

See the story on page 5, this issue, and watch for next issue's seminar round-up.

## Spiritual life workcamp set

Missouri older youth and college students will have a Spiritual Life Workcamp May 28 to June 3 at the Methodist Encampment at Arcadia, Mo.

It is intended to be a combination of physical labor and spiritual experience. Various experiments in spiritual disciplines will be followed. Registration will be limited to 25 persons.




**Bishop Gerald Kennedy receives a "Toehold in T.C.U." from Van Rathgeber at the new MSM center at Texas Christian University in Forth Worth. See story above.**

## Chicago, Evanston share observance

Brotherhood Week the last of February was observed at Newbury Avenue Center in Chicago with youth groups from churches in the Chicago area as participants in a "fun" program one evening.

The Newbury Avenue Center is a Methodist institution serving people in Chicago's slum areas. Located at Maxwell Street and South Newbury Avenue, in the heart of one of the worst areas, it offers more fortunate young people a clear picture of the needs of those it serves.

MYF'ers from First Church in Evanston were among the group who shared songs, folk dances and skits one evening during Brotherhood week. Two months ago the Newbury youth group entertained the Evanston MYF at a turkey dinner and a "jazz and dance" session (see picture below). In other years the Christmas party has been held at the Evanston church instead of the Newbury center.

## Mock trial highlights needs

Climaxing National Youth Week recently, the United Christian Youth Council of Forrest City, Ark., sponsored a "mock trial" in Graham Memorial Presbyterian church.

Four youth — Jimmy Curtis, Elaine Smith, Linda Carroll and Paul Williams—were charged with burglary and petty larceny. Well-known local lawyers, Judge O. H. Hargraves, Prosecuting Attorney Fletcher Long, and Defense Attorney Knox Kinney, added to the dramatic realism of the trial.

Youth of the various churches were jury members and other court officials.

The unfolding story of delinquency took shape in the words of the witnesses, some youth and some adult friends of youth. An unhealthy story of too little adult supervision, too little responsibility and too little to do resulted in the youth breaking into a service station.

The youth jury brought in a verdict of guilty and fixed the sentence at two years in the state reformatory, to be suspended on good behavior.

The jury also recommended leniency "since it is felt that the basic fault stems from lack of adequate supervision and recreational facilities for youth in this community." The jury suggested that a Youth Center be established.

Judge Hargraves said: "Each man must ultimately answer for his own acts . . . although the delinquency of any youth is a reflection on the community as a whole, that responsibility rests with the person willfully committing such acts."

**If you are not a regular subscriber to CONCERN, send your dollar to Box 871, Nashville 2, Tenn., right away. You need CONCERN for your concerns!**

**This scene is coming to be typical at Newbury Avenue Center in Chicago, where Evanston MYF'ers are joining in programs and parties. See story above.**

## Hawaiian MYF's help buy jeep

Hawaiian MYF members are helping to buy a jeep for use in Methodist work in Puerto Rico.

Shown above are Rae Okawa, intermediate MYF president, and Wanda Okawa, senior MYF president, giving a check for $64.10 to Dr. Harry Komuro, superintendent, to be used in purchasing the jeep.

Youth members of Kahuku Community Methodist Church in Hawaii made and sold "glo-candles" to raise money for "Operation Jeep," a project in conjunction with the Advance Special of the Hawaii Mission of The Methodist Church.

Although Hawaiian Methodism is an "outpost mission" of the church, the MYF's have been active in helping in missionary projects for other countries.

**CONCERN has received an answer to the grasshopper problem in the Feb. 4 "Jest for Fun" column. However, we can't publish it because it was not accompanied by a subscription. How about a "Friends of CONCERN" answer, Janet Nelson?**

## Forum

To CONCERN:

An excellent study has been made of comic books in America by Dr. Fredric Wertham, M.D. The results of seven years of research in this field are printed in his revealing and shocking book, "*Seduction of the Innocent,*" published by Rinehart and Company Inc., from New York and Toronto. Local groups would find it of inestimable value in investigating the causes of juvenile delinquency and seeking means to combat it.

**(See article page 9.)**

My most sincere compliments on your coverage of the UMT problem. I enjoyed reading your comments very much, and felt that you were very thorough in presenting the only tenable Christian view of the problem. I often think that if our national policy and lawmakers displayed half as much common sense as some of the youth in our church, there wouldn't be powder kegs like Formosa. Thanks again for expressing so adequately my Concern for Universal Military Training.

**Keith Tandy**
**Sioux City, Iowa**

To CONCERN:

Please accept my appreciation for the extra issues of CONCERN which deal with one of the most urgent problems before the American people today, namely that of universal military training. You can count on me to use my influence in both public and private conversation and I assure you that I will give your constructive approach my heartiest support.

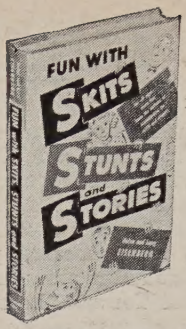
**Bishop A. Raymond Grant**
**Portland, Ore.**

To CONCERN:

I appreciate your letter with the copies of CONCERN. I think you know, of course, that the Council of Bishops, at its recent session, included in the general statement given to the Church a section about Universal Military Training. I feel, though, that the young people themselves can give great leadership in this field.

**Bishop Paul E. Martin**
**Little Rock, Ark.**

# BOY, THIS IS IT!

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